

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

January 23, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ben Babin, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, James Little, Larry Thomas, Don Thompson, Tamiara Wade, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Burrell Carter, Willie George Lee, Matt Milazzo

Vacancy: East Feliciana Parish

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston, DOTD Susan Douglas

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Babin.

2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None

4. Minutes

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, second by Hoover to approve the December 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented.

5. Financial Statement Report:

- Hoover presented to the Board the December 2017 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Bailey to approve the December 2017 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.

6. Executive Director Report

- On December 13, 2017, the ARBC office flooded along with other adjoining offices. A lot of progress has been made in recovery. There are approximately 70+ boxes of documents yet to refile.
- Rietschier said that a letter has been received from DOTD stating that they will not hold ARBC to the 50/50 cost share as written in the 3rd Amended CEA.
- Discussed the status and process of the CRDC Project in reference to the Corps, Cost Compliance Board on making determinations on projects. There should be a meeting in March or April 2018.
- Babin stated that the meeting in December 2017 with Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary of DOTD, Representative Hodges, and Chris Knotts went well. Somehow they had misunderstood and thought ARBC would not contribute 11.5 million. ARBC retracted its letter of possible termination of the 3rd Amended CEA.
- Rietschier informed the Board of the CRDC Project Task Force Meeting to be held on February 1, 2018 at 10 am.
- In view of the changes in the funding arrangement for the construction of the US Hwy 61, bridges and related utility relocations, Mr. Rietschier emphasized the need for the Project Coordinating Team (Management Team) to meet more frequently. This is to discuss the funding beyond US Hwy 61 Bridge construction and for the completion of Phase 1 and portion of Phase 2 to Cypress Bayou. This will result in stage lowering and benefits for City of Baker and Zachary. The Board unanimously approved a motion to send a letter to DOTD Dr. Shawn Wilson to re-enforce the Management Team was made by Bailey and seconded by Thomas.
- DOTD Susan Douglas: Regarding the CRDC Project, DOTD submitted invoices to ARBC for Beech Grove Farms and Bourque properties. The only active land discussions taking place right now are around acquiring construction servitude associated with the Bypass Road tie-ins at US 61. Utility relocation designs are ongoing using the 35' total scour depth provided by DOTD hydraulics. It is anticipated that USACE will continue to pursue OMB approval to accept monies using the relocations costs estimate provided by the USACE Washington state group.

7. ARBC Legal Counsel

- Beech Grove Farms Hunting Lease: At the December 2017 ARBC meeting there was found to be a tie bid. The Board agreed that in the future a coin will be tossed in the case of a tied bid. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, seconded by Thomas to put Tract 39 hunting lease in the newspaper for rebid.
- ARBC has received a letter from DOTD stating that they will not hold ARBC to the 50/50 cost share as written in the 3rd Amended CEA. There is no pressing need to amend the CEA at this time.

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- Policies and Procedures for ARBC are being worked on.
8. Old Business: None
9. New Business
- The Board unanimously approved a motion by Bailey, second by Hoover to approve Resolution 1129, payment of an invoice from DOTD on Parcels 18-1 and 18-3 in the amount of \$1,021,535.24.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Thompson to approve the renewal of the contract between ARBC and Redshift Consulting (IT-Computer) for 3 years.
10. The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

/s/ Ben Babin, ARBC President

Date: February 20, 2018

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary